

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 OMB-01 AID-05

EB-07 /117 W

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R 021321Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4558

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 3221

GENEVA FOR WISNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR RH ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN PRESS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA: DEC 2

REF: LUSAKA 3212

SUMMARY: DAILY MAIL DEC 2 EDITORIAL AGAIN

CALLS FOR THE BRITISH TO ASSUME THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL

RESPONSIBILITIES IN RHODESIA. BOTH PAPERS REPORT THE

CLOSING OF THE ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES AND

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN KITWE WHERE THE CHURCHES WERE

ACCUSED OF PROVIDING WEAK LEADERSHIP IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

TIMES OF ZAMBIA REPORTER IN STORY FROM GABORONE

REPORTS BOTSWANA'S INCREASING CONCERN ABOUT THE FLOW

OF REFUGEES AND INCIDENTS ALONG THE BOTSWANA-RHODESIA

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BORDER. WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS NOTE MEETING OF

DELEGATION LEADERS IN GENEVA, VOTES IN UN, ZANU
REPRESENTATIVE ALLEGATION IN STOCKHOLM THAT SWEDES
SERVING AS MERCENARIES IN RHODESIA, PLUS DEPARTURE
OF ZIPA-ZANU GROUP FROM DAR ES SALAAM TO GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE DEC 2 DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL, ASSESSING GENEVA,
CRITICIZED THE PLAYERS--CONFERENCE SPONSORS,
RHODESIANS, STHOLE AND MUZOREWA. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT
WHICH "...CONTINUES TO REMAIN SOLID AS THE RALLYING
POINT FOR UNBENDING NATIONALISM OF THE AFRICAN MASSES
OF RHODESIA OR THE ZIMBABWE TO BE" WAS EXEMPT FROM
CRITICISM. EDITORIAL SEES THE MAIN PROBLEM AS
BRITISH FAILURE TO ASSUME THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RESPON-
SIBILITY DURING THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. SMITH
HOPES THAT THE BRITISH WILL REFUSE THIS RESPONSIBILITY,
AND THEN HE WILL PUSH FOR A COUNCIL OF STATE AS OPPOSED
TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT S DEMAND FOR A BLACK-DOMINATED,
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. HAVING COME THIS
FAR WITH THE ANGOL-AMERICAN PROPOSALS, EDITORIAL STATES
THAT IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO HAVE THE TALKS FAIL
NOW BECAUSE OF BRITISH REFUSAL TO ASSUME THEIR
CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY. HOPE IS EXPRESSED
THAT "THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS WILL WORK HARDER
THAN THEY HAVE DONE BEFORE TO ENSURE THAT THE TALKS
SUCCEED BY GETTING SMITH TO PLAY A MEANINGFUL ROLE
IN SOLVING THE FEW PROBLEMS REMAINING AT THE TALKS
IN GENEVA.

2. TIMES OF ZAMBIA REPORTED THE CONCLUSION OF THE
6-DAY CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE ALL AFRICA
CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES AND THE WORLD COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES IN KITWE DEC 1. ONE OF THE CONFERENCE S
RESOLUTIONS CALLS FOR A REAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE
CHURCHES AND THE LIBERATION GROUPS.
ANOTHER RECOMMENDS THAT THE CHURCHES TAKE PRACTICAL
STEPS TO HELP THOSE INVOLVED IN THE FREEDON STRUGGLE.

3. TIMES REPORT FROM ITS REPORTER IN GABORONE NOTES
THAT BOTSWANA HAS WARNED THAT, IF INTERNATIONAL
HELP IS NOT FORTHCOMING, THE FLOW OF REFUGEES COMING
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INTO THE COUNTRY MAY HAVE TO BE RESTRICTED. THE
REFUGEES ARE GENERATING FINANCIAL AND SOCIAL STRAINS.
BOTSWANA CONDEMNATION OF NOV 25 KIDNAPPING OF BOTSWANA
YOUTH BY RHODESIAN SOLDIERS IS HIGHLIGHTED.
TAGGED ON TO THIS STORY WAS A REUTERS REPORT OF A
SOUTH AFRICAN ALERT ALONG ITS BORDERS WITH MOZAMBIQUE.
LOW

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